

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

FARM ADVISER

News Notes from the Field of the Extension Service, Released for Publication Every Two Weeks
From the Office of the Director of Extension.

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NOTICE

The purpose of the Farm Adviser is to furnish a convenient and timely medium for supplying news notes regarding the work of the Agricultural College, Experiment Station, and Extension Service, in co-operation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture to the local press and to county demonstration agents with a view to keeping them and the people throughout the State informed of the activities of these agricultural agencies in their behalf. All requests for copies of this sheet should be directed to Reuben Brigham, In Charge of Publications, The Extension Service, College Park, Maryland.

STATE GRANGE ENDORSES THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

College Park, Md., Dec. 11.

Delegates from nine county and forty-five subordinate granges attended the recent meeting of the Maryland State Grange held at Salisbury, December 6-9, 1915. The sessions surpassed all meetings in recent years in attendance and interest. Among the speakers on the program being the Governor-elect, E. C. Harrington, Congressman David J. Lewis on "Cheaper Telegraph and Telephone Service for the Farmer," Prof. F. B. Bomberger, of the Maryland Agricultural College, on "Better Financial Credit for the Farmer," Dr. Wm. W. Palmer, of the Board of Health of Baltimore city, on "Co-

operation in Milk Production," and Miss K. A. Pritchett of the Maryland Agricultural College on "Home Demonstration Work in Maryland." A special feature of the State Grange meeting was the rendering of degree work, drills, and tableaux by the younger members of the organization, which surpassed in beauty and variety anything hitherto seen in the Granges of the State.

In view of the fact that the Legislature will soon convene, there was much discussion of agricultural legislation. Among the resolutions passed being the following: The establishment of a State-wide dog tax modelled after the Virginia law, the granting of permission to County Demonstration Agents to inoculate hogs with hog anti-cholera serum, the making of an appropriation permitting the purchase by farmers of hog anti-cholera serum at lower cost than it can be obtained at present from the State Biological Laboratory; the establishment of a system of simplified land title registration and rural credits, the prohibition of race-track gambling at agricultural fairs; the appointment of a committee on taxation, looking toward a fairer basis of taxation in the State, and many other measures tending to improve agricultural conditions in the State.

The State Grange Committee on the Agricultural College and Experiment Station presented a report strongly favoring an adequate appropriation for the institution, going on record in the following resolution, which was adopted by the State Grange, as expressing its views regarding support of the College by the coming session of the Legislature.

WHEREAS, The agricultural resources represent the States' greatest asset and that one-half of the land

of Maryland is practically unproductive and furnishing no support to the State; and,

WHEREAS, A liberal policy on the part of the State toward the development of these resources will increase their value, thereby adding to the assessable property of the State and its revenues; and,

WHEREAS, We believe the proper equipment and development of the Maryland Agricultural College will be the best means of accomplishing this end; be it therefore

RESOLVED, That the Maryland State Grange hereby advocates the adoption of a broad and liberal charter for the Maryland Agricultural College that will enable this institution to perform any class of work for the farmers and rural people that they may wish to delegate to their State College and that will enable the institution to conduct the educational, investigational and Extension Work required by the national laws making appropriation for these purposes. Be it further

RESOLVED, That we urge upon the coming Legislature the appropriation of one million dollars for buildings and proper equipment and that proper maintenance funds be provided for supporting the educational and Extension Work in the State.

WINTER SHORT COURSES BEGIN NEXT MONTH

College Park, Md., Dec. 13.

The detailed program of the winter short courses in agriculture and domestic science are being distributed from the Agricultural College to farmers and farm women throughout the State. In regard to the character of these popular courses the bulletin announcing them, copy-

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tains the following statement:

"For those persons who cannot attend the regular four-year and two year courses, but who can leave the farm for a few weeks during the winter season, the Maryland Agricultural College provides a series of short courses which are held each year during the first ten weeks after January first as follows:

SHORT COURSES 1916

Soils and Fertilizers.....	Jan.	3-8
Farm Crops.....	Jan.	10-15
Domestic Science.....	Jan.	10-15
Road Building and Maintenance.....	Jan.	10-15
Poultry Husbandry.....	Jan.	17-22
Horticulture.....	Jan.	24-Feb. 5
Animal Husbandry.....	Feb.	7-26
Farm Machinery and Farm Engines	Feb.	28-Mar. 4
Farm Carpentry and Blacksmithing.....	March	6-11

In presenting these subjects the teaching staff of the College will be augmented by specialists from the Experiment Station, U. S. Department of Agriculture, the Extension Service of the College and experts from Maryland and other States who have made pronounced success in their specialities.

There is no charge for instruction in these courses, and the cost of board and lodging is very reasonable.

Programs giving detailed information as to dates, subjects and lecturers for these courses will be forwarded upon request.

SOUND ADVICE REGARDING THE PROTECTION OF WATER PIPES

College Park, Md., Dec. 13.

There is no situation more disagreeable on the farm or in the farm home than the unexpected bursting of water pipes during the early winter. In this connection the Mechanical Engineering Department of the Agricultural College has just issued a most valuable and practical circular on the laying of water pipes and their protection in freezing weather. In it these recommendations are made:

"In the frost proofing of water

pipes to prevent freezing, the following points must be considered—the severity of exposure to cold winds, frequency of circulation of water in the pipe, protection against dampness, and against currents of air. Relative to the latter point, it is well to know that stagnant air offers a strong protection against freezing, and that pipes, located where the air is not in motion, can withstand a much lower temperature than when exposed to currents of air.

A lady visitor to the College seeing one of our pipes covered wrote and stated that she was having a great deal of trouble from the freezing and tripping open of the water pipes at her house and desired to know how to prevent such accidents. When water pipes are to be run horizontal to the ground, they should be placed below the freezing point or frost line. If this is done, there is very little danger of freezing and no covering is needed. Around College Park twenty-four inches is considered a safe distance to place such pipes.

When pipes are located above the freezing point, horse manure may be used to surround the pipe, the same being placed in rough wooden boxing. The heat of the manure provides splendid protection, but after being used a season should be removed and replaced with fresh material. Additional protection can be secured if the earth surrounding the pipe or boxing for a distance of twelve inches is not rammed, as ramming reduces the air spaces between the particles of earth and such spaces are desirable as dead air spaces. For this class of work in moist places, split vitrified tile filled with mineral wool or hair felt with all the joints cemented, is ideal."

WILL DISCUSS COUNTRY ROAD IMPROVEMENT

College Park, Md., Dec. 14.

The announcement of a special Short Course in Road Building and Maintenance to be held at the Agri-

cultural College January 10-15, 1916, has just been issued from the office of the Division of Engineering. In making this announcement, it says in part;

"The effect which good roads have upon the comfort and general welfare of the rural community is apparent to everyone. The State has practically completed its system of hard surfaced roads, connecting the county seats and other important towns. The problem which now confronts the farmer is reaching these roads without expending so much effort that the benefits resulting from the good roads are of little value to him. It is plainly impossible to macadamize all the side roads, but it is nevertheless possible to improve the condition of every one of our dirt roads. The method of doing this will be the main feature of the Short Course in Roadbuilding and Maintenance to be held at the College January 10 to 15 inclusive.

Especial emphasis will be placed on the earth road, its improvement and maintenance. Problems relating to roads that constantly confront the road engineers, supervisors, commissioners and farmers of counties will fully discussed. These discussions will be led by the most competent authorities on road question obtainable, among them being county roads engineers, members of the staff of the State Roads Commission, of the U. S. Office of Public Roads and Rural Engineering, and members of the Engineering Division of the College. One day will be especially set apart for the discussion of their problems by our County Roads Engineers. Everyone in the State interested in improved roads should write to the Engineering Division, Maryland Agricultural College, for a descriptive circular, and take advantage of this opportunity to learn more concerning road improvement by attending the course.

